

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **“THE TANGERINES” BY RYUNOSUKE AKUTAGAWA**

### **VOCABULARY**

Define the following terms that appear in this short story. You should use context clues from the story to define them, and only refer to a dictionary if you are stuck.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Ennui	
Muffler	
Prosaic	
Whim	
Reprimand	
Languidly	
Dismal	
Indelibly	

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### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

Respond to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Use the “Short Story Literary Elements” handout to help you answer these questions. Remember to include evidence from the story to support your answers.

1. Describe what the narrator felt when they say “I felt something like life welling up within me” on page 103.
2. Provide an example of, and evaluate the use of, the following literary devices throughout the text.
  - a. Simile
  - b. Imagery
  - c. Metaphor
3. Describe the characters of the onlooker/narrator and the girl. What are their differences? Do they have any similarities?
4. Identify and describe the conflict in this story. Is it physical or psychological? How is it resolved?
5. Examine the tone of the narrator. How does this inform readers of their attitude toward the girl?
6. What is the theme of this story?
7. Why do you think the author called this story “The Tangerines”?